

## Message Text

SECRET

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43

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 240958Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6224

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CINCPAC

COMUSSAG

S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 7212

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CB

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION OF CONFLICT BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENT

REF: PHNOM PENH 7120

1. PRESIDENT LON NOL THROUGH HIS NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR BG EK PROEUNG INFORMED US THAT SOCIO-REPUBLICAN PARTY AND PARLIAMENTARY LEADERS HAVE AGREED TO CALL OFF THEIR HARASSMENT OF THE CABINET IN GENERAL AND ITS REPUBLICAN MEMBERS IN PARTICULAR. FOLLOWING ARE THE DETAILS OF AN ARRANGEMENT WORKED OUT BY THE MARSHAL IN SEPARATE MEETINGS LAST NIGHT (MAY 23) WITH THE FIVE PRINCIPAL SOCIO-REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEEMEN AND THE 29 DEPUITES WHO SIGNED THE INTERPELLATION PETITION AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT.

A. TWO OBJECTIONAL POINTS IN THE INTERPELLATION PETITION (WHICH ASK FOR EXPLANATION OF "ANARCHY IN THE GOVERNMENT" AND "DISRESPECT SHOWN THE CONSTITUTION BY CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE CABINET") WILL BE OXTTHWD, LEAVING ONLY SIX ROUTINE QUESTIONS ON ECONOMIC MATTERS. THE DATE OF THE INTERPELLATION WILL BE POSTPONED FROM MAY 25 TO MAY 28 AND FURTHER POSTPONEMENT CAN BE ARRANGED ON

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REQUEST OF THE PRIME MINISTER. REPUBLICAN MINISTERS

NEED NOT APPEAR BEFORE THE PARLIAMENT.

B. IN THE MEANTIME, EIGHT OF THE 29 DEPUTIES SIGNING THE PETITION HAVE WITHDRAWN THEIR SUPPORT, LEAVING THE INTERPELLATION REQUEST FOUR SHORT OF THE REQUISITE NUMBER OF SPONSORS. IT IS THUS POSSIBLE THAT THE ASSEMBLY LEADERSHIP WILL DECLARE THE INTERPELLATION PETITION VOID ALTOGETHER.

C. THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND THE SENATE WILL MEET IN CONGRESS TOMORROW (MAY25) TO EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN PUBLIC ORDER (SEPTTEL).

D. REPUBLICAN AND SOCIO-REPUBLICAN PARTY LEADERS WILL MEET PERIODICALLY TO IRON OUT DIFFICULTIES. THE FIRST MEETING HELD LAST NIGHT AT THE REPUBLICAN HEADQUARTERS PROCEEDED SMOOTHLY, AND THE SECOND WILL BE HELD AT SOCIO-REPUBLICAN HEADQUARTERS NEXT WEEK.

E. THE PRESIDENT AND SIRIK MATAK HAD A VERY CORDIAL MEETING THIS MORNING, EK PROEUNG EMPHASIZED, AND WERE IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT ON THE NEED TO PRESERVE THE COALITION AND THE PRESENT CABINET.

2. COMMENT: AS WE EXPECTED, LON NOL HAS BROUGHT ERRANT SOCIO-REPUBLICANS BACK INTO LINE.  
DEAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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